



*AAUW Mission: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*

Contents	
From Branch President	2
Branch Mtg	2
March Birthdays	3
International Dining	3
Hot Topics	4
Book Groups	5
Advocacy	6
GEM Garage Sale	7
Calendar Details	8
Special Interest Groups	9

# MARCH 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <u>Literatae 1pm</u>	2	3	4
5 <u>International Dining</u>	6 <u>CAB</u>	7	8 *Reservation <i>Deadline for Lunch Bunch</i>	9 <u>Film Fans 12pm</u>	10 <u>LunchBunch 11:30am</u> <u>Advocacy 9:30</u>	11
12	13 Film Buds will NOT meet; Alternate discussion TBA	14	15 <u>Photo SIG 1pm</u>	16 <u>World Affairs 2pm</u>	17 *History RSVP <i>Deadline</i>	18
19	20 April <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	21 <u>History SIG 2 pm</u>	22	23 <u>Teatime Books 2pm</u>	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 <u>AAUW Field Trip/ Lunch</u>	31	

**Find us on the Web**  
[asheville-nc.aauw.net](http://asheville-nc.aauw.net)  
 and  
[FACEBOOK](#)

AAUW Asheville Branch Board	
President	Wendy Haner
Pres. Elect	***Open***
Secretary	Portia Alexander
Treasurer	Laurie Powell
VP, Programs	Marlene Shaklan
Co-VP, Prog	Susan Gabel
Co-VP, Memb	Linda Beltran
Co-VP, Memb	Jan Huskey
VP, PR	Judith Chitwood
Public Policy	Eleanor Lane
Interest Groups	Eleanor Johnson
Newsletter	Lynette Miller
Webmaster	Eleanor Johnson
GEM Rep	Marilyn Kolton
Past President	Carolyn Worthington

## From the Branch President Wendy Haner

As I write this, it is ides of February and it is so nice to feel the warmth of the sun through the window. Let's us hope that March doesn't come in like a lion, but certainly goes out like a lamb. I know we need more rain, but I can't help enjoying the sunshine! I hope you are, too.

With the season change there is also change within our branch. We have upcoming Board members that will be rotating off and you may receive a call from members of our Nominating Committee giving you the opportunity to step into action as one of our officers for the 2017-2018 year. We are planning many interesting programs and activities for this coming year and we are sure that you will enjoy yourself and make many new friends as you participate. The Board is very appreciative of the support our members have demonstrated by increased attendance at our branch meetings and increasing involvement in the Interest Groups. As we grow, it is essential to have more members become involved. We have 3 slots that need to be filled – President Elect, VP-Co of Membership and Webmaster. We are a volunteer organization that depends on the willingness of members to contribute their time and talent to fulfill the responsibilities of Board and committee chair positions, and to volunteer for the

many roles/tasks needed to ensure the success of our branch. Our branch has grown not only in membership but also in the programs and projects that we have developed. In doing so this has allowed us to be more aligned with the mission of AAUW.

Our growth has resulted in the expansion of committees; Advocacy, STEM, and UNC-A. We are looking into adding more specialized committees such as Fund-raising, Special Projects, etc. who organize and structure their groups the way they want. We want to continue all of our Special Interest Groups (SIG's) and possibly add more as the membership dictates. Everyone enjoys the monthly get togethers as they build friendships along with discussing books, films, world affairs and topics of interest. We encourage involvement from our members as we continue to build a solid foundation.

Thank you so much for all that you do to make AAUW Asheville branch a beacon focused on advancing equality of women and girls in Buncombe county.

Standing Strong Together,

Wendy Haner, President of AAUW-Asheville

**PLEASE NOTE SCHEDULE CHANGE: Due to a scheduling error at the First Baptist Church, our May 16th meeting and lunch has been changed to May 23rd! Please mark your calendars with the new date. Thank you, Marlene and Susan**

### AAUW Field Trip Thursday March 30, 2017

**LUNCH: AB Tech Culinary School, Magnolia Bldg. on the AB Tech Campus AT NOON**

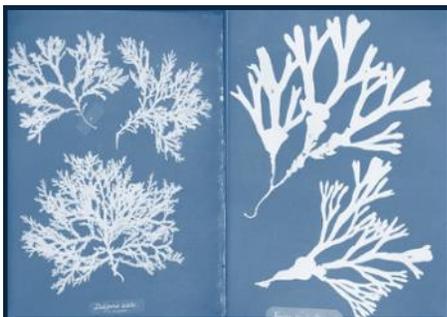
**TOUR: Smith McDowell House Museum (On the AB Tech Campus) at 1:15**

Please respond to the following questions:

1. Will you join us for lunch? (\$10-\$12, cash or check only).
2. Will you take the tour? The admittance fee has been generously funded by one of our members. You can take the tour without having lunch.
3. Are you a member of the North Carolina Historical Association?

**RSVP: Susan Grabel**  
at: [susangrabel2@gmail.com](mailto:susangrabel2@gmail.com)  
or 828-505-3826

**NO LATER THAN March 15th**  
**Lunch is limited to the FIRST 40**  
**RESERVATIONS so call early!**



**Anna Atkins** received an unusually scientific education for a woman of her time. Trained as a botanist, she used photography to record botanical specimens for what is considered the first photographically illustrated book, *British Algae: Cyanotype Impressions*.

She was made a member of the Botanical Society of London, one of the few scientific bodies which admitted women in 1839.



### Membership News

Great News - Call your family and friends! It's the perfect time to join AAUW. Starting March 16th, new members will get 15+ months of full membership, through June 30th, 2018. For more information, contact Linda Beltran, Membership VP, at [linbeltran09@yahoo.com](mailto:linbeltran09@yahoo.com) or phone [828-575-9964](tel:828-575-9964)! She'll send a letter and application to all your prospective members!

### International Dining

**Dinners for International Dining this year will include:**

**Greek Independence Day, Mar 25**

144th Kentucky Derby Day, May 6

Best of the USA, July 2



Email announcement is sent out about 3 weeks before the event, with host member providing recipes or suggestions for the potluck. Members may bring one guest.

Reservations are taken as received after the email announcement is sent to International Dining members.

To join the group, email **Jeanne Smolkin**, [jsmolkin@gmail.com](mailto:jsmolkin@gmail.com)

**"If this world is going to be a better place for our grandchildren and great-grandchildren, it will be women who make it so."**

- Isabel Allende



Tell your friends "Happy Birthday" and honor them with a gift to GEM.

### **March Birthdays**

- 3/1 Carol McLimans
- 3/3 Peg Steiner
- 3/11 Diana Davidson
- 3/11 Janet Graham
- 3/11 Phyllis Langton
- 3/17 Lynette Miller
- 3/17 Wendy Owen
- 3/24 Ellen Nutter
- 3/25 JoAnne Setzer
- 3/25 Eleanor Walther
- 3/26 Marilyn Kolton
- 3/31 Jean Bailey
- 3/31 Roberta Carney
- 3/31 Sharon Kopstein

## Hot Topics From The Board

### UNC-A Update

Wendy Haner, Linda Beltran and Jan Huskey were invited to introduce AAUW to female students at UNC-A. An introductory meeting was held on February 7th. Dr. Jill Moffitt asked the students to listen to our overview on AAUW and if interested, she would sponsor a student branch. To date, three students have expressed interest. That is a good start! And all the students that attended the introductory meeting signed up for an e-affiliate membership. This means that these students will receive information electronically but do not have AAUW voting privileges. They also receive free national membership for the first year out of college.

Last year, UNC-A held their first leadership summit for students. The goal was to engage with students while they develop, enhance and experience leadership firsthand. The second annual leadership summit was held on February 11. The focus was on Social Change leadership. AAUW was asked to participate. Jan Huskey presented a session on Change Management.

An official invitation has gone out to UNC-A students to sign up for the AAUW StartSmart Salary Negotiation Workshop being held on April 19. The first forty students to sign up will attend this pilot session.

### STEM NEWS

On March 2<sup>nd</sup> AAUW will participate in a [Women in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Day](#) at Hanger Hall. The girls will have the opportunity to interview AAUW members Jean Toxen - an early coding pioneer trained by MIT grads, Janet McKimpson - a Biomedical Engineer, and Dorothy Dennett - one of the first women hired by Xerox!

Did you know...*Susan Kare developed most of the interface elements for Apple Macintosh. You might not think that women have played a huge role in the development of computer technology, but in this case you'd be wrong. Kare helped develop the bulk of those little icons early Mac users clicked on every day. Kare left Apple in the 80's, and is still working with innovating new technologies and improving design.*



Make today a day to learn something new. Hanger Hall girls do! Coding Camp at Hanger Hall .

## Book Groups & 2017 Selections

### Cocktails And Books (CAB)

This discussion group meets at Metro Wines, 169 Charlotte St. the first Monday of each month, from 4:30 to 6 pm for wine and conversation. For more information or to add your name to the list of members, contact group leader Anne Reis [annereis2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:annereis2@sbcglobal.net)

Date	Book
March	<u>Here I Am</u> —Jonathan Foer
April	<u>Commonwealth</u> —Ann Patchett
May	<u>Marriage of Opposites</u> —Alice Hoffman
June	<u>The Orphan Master's Son</u> —Adam Johnson

### Literatae

NOTE: Meetings are the first Wednesdays of most months, at 1:00. Please RSVP to the host to let her know of your presence or absence. The discussion leader also brings goodies. Contact: Jean Toxen, [jtoxen@bellsouth.net](mailto:jtoxen@bellsouth.net) or 828-891-2864 (H).

Date	Book	Host/Leader
Mar. 1, '17	<u>Between the World and Me</u> by Ta-Nehisi Coates	Mara Pasternack 64 Honey Locust Dr. Mills River 28759
Apr. 5, '17	<u>The Remains of the Day</u> by Kazuo Ishiguro	Fusako Krummel 146 Hillside #42 28801
May 3, '17	<u>Women of the Smokies</u> by Courtney Lix	Jean Toxen 41 Sourwood Dr. Mills River 28759
June 7, '17	Book Selections	Pat Argue 107 Chestnut Ridge Rd. Mills River 28759

### Tea Time Books

This book discussion group meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 2 pm at the homes of various members; all are welcome; for this month's book and location or to obtain more information, contact group leader Juanita Spanogle at 258-0096 or [jspanogle@aol.com](mailto:jspanogle@aol.com)

Date	Book	Location
Mar. 23	<u>When Breath Becomes Air</u> by Paul Kalanithi	TBA
April 27	<u>Orphan Train</u> by Christine Baker Kline	Janet Lance, 3001 Timber Trail 28804 505.8192 c208.569.5318 <a href="mailto:janlance@aol.com">janlance@aol.com</a>
May 25	<u>The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry</u> by Rachel Joyce	Andriette Kinsella, 75 Haywood St. # 713 Asheville 28801 243-1996 <a href="mailto:andriettek@bellsouth.net">andriettek@bellsouth.net</a>
June 22	Book Selections	Juanita Spanogle, 19 Stony Ridge 28804 258.0096 <a href="mailto:jspanogle@aol.com">jspanogle@aol.com</a>

## Advocacy/Public Policy

Advocacy/Public Policy will meet Friday, March 10 at 9:30 at the YWCA. Please join us to learn more about how you can be involved. Anne Sayers , [annesayers432@gmail.com](mailto:annesayers432@gmail.com) and Eleanor Lane, [elane@northstarlane.com](mailto:elane@northstarlane.com).

Below are 4 **committee public-policy initiatives**—we invite you to get involved, get educated and please act.

### **EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT--NC Bills Introduced**

**ERA bills introduced in NC General Assembly:** S 85 and H 102.

AAUW is part of a new coalition, the ERA-NC Alliance: 1st annual meeting in Raleigh on March 13. Details: [www.era-nc.org](http://www.era-nc.org).

**ACTION:** Email/call members of the Senate Rules Committee and House Rules Committee to urge hearings.

WNC meeting for ERA advocates planned: March 25, site and time TBA.

Contact Robbie Madden at [robertamadden@yahoo.com](mailto:robertamadden@yahoo.com) for more information

### **MEDICARE AND SOCIAL SECURITY**

Advocacy/Public Policy is exploring a partnership with AARP to ensure that **Medicare and Social Security** are maintained in current form.

Rebecca Chaplin, AARP representative for WNC is leading efforts to educate about the potential policy and legislative threats to Social Security and Medicare and changes proposed for replacement for the Affordable Care Act affecting older adults. Expect more information.

### **AFFORDABLE CARE ACT (ACA)**

**Issue: 20 million Americans (~ 550,000 in NC)** currently covered under ACA; subsidies enable low-income families to afford health insurance, often for 1st time. If healthcare lost: devastating for individuals, chaotic to entire healthcare/hospital industry, massively expensive.

**ATTEND:** WNC Healthcare Coalition -March 15, 3:00 pm, United Way, 50 S. French Broad. Contact Kitty Schaller at [kittyschaller@gmail.com](mailto:kittyschaller@gmail.com).

**Learn:** Sources of information:

Bill offered by US House-[envisions major changes](#) and flat rate assist based on age

[Compare Key Elements of ACA Repeal and Replace Proposals with New Interactive Tool](#), Kaiser Family Foundation website.

**ACTION:** Call your US Representatives and Senators to advocate for reasonable, affordable, secure health insurance. Lives depend upon it –women are especially hurt by poor healthcare.

### **CHILDCARE FUNDING.**

**Issue: Inequitable funding for childcare vouchers.** Reimbursement for childcare varies widely across NC counties and Buncombe Co. voucher amounts are substantially lower than most other counties--current structure is not based on actual amount of cost to offer care.

**Efforts to Date:** Met with Greg Borom, Children First, and planned meeting with Jackie Penick, Verner, and Beth Maczka, YWCA.

**ACTION: Look for** an email to all AAUW members--action you can take with legislators and state government officials to ensure completion of new market rate study for fair/equitable subsidy for Buncombe County.

**GEM Volunteers Now Accepting Items for the GEM Fund Garage Sale - "Treasures From the Attic"**

GEM volunteers are now accepting items for the upcoming "Treasures from the Attic" — the GEM Fund's garage sale scheduled for **Saturday, April 8**. From now through April 1, volunteers will be accepting items for the spring garage sale — new or gently used items for home and garden — clean, presentable, and, if applicable, in good working condition. Consider housewares, kitchen and table ware, linens, artwork, frames, collectibles and whatnots, tools, books, CDs, DVD's, books, fashion accessories. Unless it is something special, we are not accepting articles of clothing nor large pieces of furniture. In addition, we will not accept tube TV's. Unless you have made special arrangements with Karen Mauro (ktminnc@gmail.com), items must be small and light enough for one person to lift. Please refer to the email announcement for more information. You may drop off items at the following locations:

**Central: home of Susan Grabel**

115 Gracelyn Road  
Asheville 28804  
828-505-3826 susangrabel2@gmail.com

**South: home of Karen Mauro**

136 Pennsylvania Road  
Mills River 28759  
828-891-5963 ktminnc@gmail.com

**North: home of Millie Massey**

(2/15— 2/23; 3/18—4/1)  
26 Mountain Meadow Circle  
Weaverville 28787  
828-645-4513 themillster@frontier.com

**Home of Nini Abbott (2/24—3/17)**

25 Highland Pointe Court  
Weaverville 28787  
828-658-4195 niniabbott@gmail.com

**Northeast: home of Marilyn Kolton**

(after 3/4)  
18 Ridgeview Drive  
Asheville 28804  
828-259-9461 LDWMKD@aol.com

**East: home of Ruth Slawson**

11 Craftsman Circle  
Asheville 28805  
828-545-3397 rslawson65@gmail.com

**Black Mountain: home of Sherry Brown**

295 Ninth Street  
Black Mountain 28711  
828-357-8455 sherrysaerie@gmail.com

**Be sure to contact these folks beforehand to make sure there will be someone home to accept your items.**

**Saturday April 8, 10 - 3**  
**Lake Louise**  
**Community Center**



The **YWCA Empowerment Center** could use Scotch tape, construction paper, paper plates, washable markers, tissue paper, cotton balls, Pompom balls, Elmer's Glue, glitter, foam shapes (sticky backs), foam sheets, coloring books, plastic wrap, sponges, Dawn soap.

**Please bring donations to General AAUW meetings, drop off at the Y, or email Eleanor Walther [etbuckly5@gmail.com](mailto:etbuckly5@gmail.com)**

**for pick up.**

**The children thank you!**



## February Calendar Details



### **Lunch Bunch - Friday, March 10, 11:30a.m.**

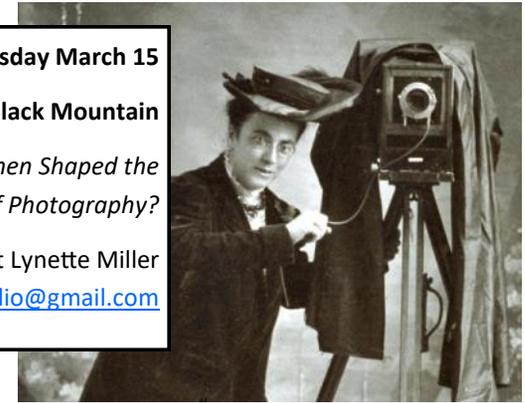
P.F. Chang's, 26 Schenck Pkwy., Biltmore Park  
*Reservation Deadline Wednesday March 8, noon.*  
Sherry Brown. [Sherrysaerie@gmail.com](mailto:Sherrysaerie@gmail.com)

### **Photo Group - Wednesday March 15**

1pm, LCMillerStudio in Black Mountain

Topic: *How Have Women Shaped the History of Photography?*

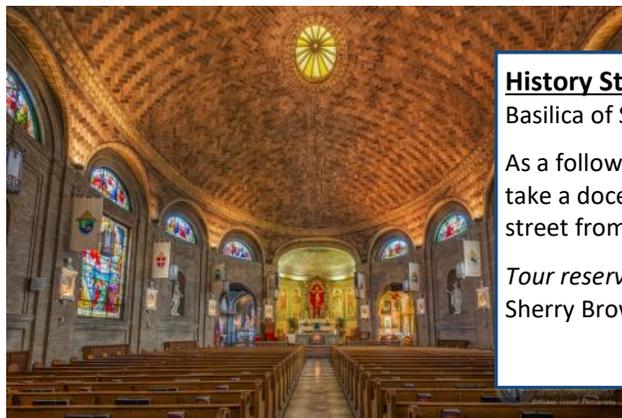
Contact Lynette Miller  
[LCMillerStudio@gmail.com](mailto:LCMillerStudio@gmail.com)



**Advocacy/Public Policy** will meet on **Friday, March 10 at 9:30** at the YWCA. Please join us to learn more about how you can be involved. Anne Sayers, [annesayers432@gmail.com](mailto:annesayers432@gmail.com) and Eleanor Lane, [elane@northstarlane.com](mailto:elane@northstarlane.com).

### **World Affairs - Thursday March 16**

will discuss Climate Change on March 16 at 2 p.m. at the home of Mary Hyde. Please contact Eve Miller ([evehigginsmiller7@gmail.com](mailto:evehigginsmiller7@gmail.com) or telephone [828-299-8107](tel:828-299-8107)) for additional information.



### **History Study Group - Tuesday March 21 at 1 p.m.**

Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St., Asheville

As a follow up to February's talk on Rafael Guastavino, architect of the Basilica, we will take a docent tour of the Basilica. An optional lunch meet up at Roman's Deli across the street from the church will be at 11:30 - 75 Haywood St., Asheville

*Tour reservation deadline Friday, March 17.*  
Sherry Brown [sherrysaerie@gmail.com](mailto:sherrysaerie@gmail.com),

## Standing Interest Groups and Activities

*Please remember to notify the hostess or group leader if you plan to attend this month's meeting so they can predict attendance and so that you can be apprised of any last-minute changes!*

**Advocacy & Public Policy Group:** This group works to underscore AAUW's mission of advancing equity for women and girls. We act as a liaison with the AAUW National and North Carolina Public Policy Programs and work locally to increase awareness and take action that brings about social change to improve the lives of women and girls in our community. The Advocacy and Public Policy Group will support only issues that are non-partisan and align with national AAUW. For more information, contact Anne Sayers at [annesayers432@gmail.com](mailto:annesayers432@gmail.com) or Eleanor Lane at [elane42@charter.net](mailto:elane42@charter.net). New members are always welcome.

**AAUW Upstreamers:** This group works with Riverlink to clean up a stream at Reed Creek Park near UNC-A three times a year. For more information contact Barbara Robinson at [baritar16@gmail.com](mailto:baritar16@gmail.com) 230-7113.

**CAB Book Group:** The "Cocktails and Books" discussion group meets Metro Wines the first Monday of each month, from 4:30 to 6 pm for wine and conversation. To get more information or to add your name to the list of members, contact group leader is Ann Reis, [annereis2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:annereis2@sbcglobal.net)

**Film Buds:** This film discussion group meets the second Monday of each month from 5:30 to 7 to discuss first-run films; attendance is limited to the first 20 current group members who make a reservation with the group leader, Beth Ellers. Because of the large size of the group, new membership is closed, but note that the Film Fans group discusses the same film and is open to new members; to obtain this month's film selection, location, and other information, contact Beth Ellers at [slark1@att.net](mailto:slark1@att.net). Participants bring pot-luck supper.

**Film Fans:** This film discussion group meets the **second** Thursday of each month from 12-1:30 pm at the River Ridge Apartments Club House; film is the same as that discussed by the Monday Film Buds group. Members bring their own lunch; open to new members; for the film selection of this month's meeting or to get more information, contact group leader Beth Johnson at [JOHN-SON1ea@earthlink.net](mailto:JOHN-SON1ea@earthlink.net).

**History Study Group:** Open to all AAUW members. Field trips to sites of historical interest will be planned, and meetings with speakers knowledgeable on a variety of subjects of historical significance will be sought and scheduled. Meetings and trips will take place on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Meeting times will be variable based on tour and/or speaker schedules. Contact Sherry Brown of information and reservations. [sherrysaerie@gmail.com](mailto:sherrysaerie@gmail.com)

**International Dining Group:** The International Dining Group is composed of AAUW members who enjoy sharing great cuisine and conversation, with a dash of history, storytelling and personal experiences. Member may bring one guest. Dinner is pot-luck, with menu suggestions from the host. Dinners are approximately every other month. For more information, contact Jeanne Smolkin at 828-254-4789 or [jsmolkin@gmail.com](mailto:jsmolkin@gmail.com).

**Literatae Book Group:** The book study group meets the first Wednesday of every month at homes of members; for this month's location Jean Toxen at [jtoxen@bellsouth.net](mailto:jtoxen@bellsouth.net) or 828-891-2864 (H).

**Lunch Bunch:** The Lunch Bunch is an informal gathering for lunch on the second Friday of each month at 11:30 at a different area restaurant. The Lunch Bunch is open to all AAUW members who wish to be added to the reservation list. Be sure to contact Sherry Brown by noon the Wednesday before at 828-357-8455 or [sherrysaerie@gmail.com](mailto:sherrysaerie@gmail.com) to reserve space and get directions to the restaurant.

**Photography Group:** The Photography Group is open to anyone with an interest in photography—with or without a camera. The group will meet on the 3rd Wednesday at 1pm though field trips/events may necessitate changes. More information at our website [aauwphotog.weebly.com](http://aauwphotog.weebly.com) or email Lynette Miller at [lcmlillerstudio@gmail.com](mailto:lcmlillerstudio@gmail.com).

**Tea Time Book Group:** This book discussion group meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 2 pm at the homes of various members; all are welcome; for this month's book and location or to obtain more information, contact group leader Juanita Spanogle at 258-0096 or [jspanogle@aol.com](mailto:jspanogle@aol.com).

**World Affairs Group:** A group for study and discussion of world events. Study meetings follow on the third Thursday in January, March and May at 2 p.m. Please contact Eve Miller ([evhigginsmiller7@gmail.com](mailto:evhigginsmiller7@gmail.com) or 828-299-8107) for additional information.